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Message Text

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51
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 SAJ-01 OMB-01 EUR-25 SS-20 NSC-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15

PRS-01 SPC-03 DRC-01 /111 W
---------- 103764
R 160900Z OCT 73
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 841
INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1207

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS -1
TAGS: PINT, CH
SUBJECT: CONFUSIUS CAMPAIGN SUSPENDS CLASSES AT PEKING
UNIVERSITY

REF: HONG KONG 9372

1. CLASSES WERE REPORTEDLY SUSPENDED RECENTLY AT PEKING UNIVERSITY TO ENABLE STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE FULL TIME IN THE CAMPAIGN TO CRITICIZE CONFUCIUS. BRITHS EMBASSY LEARNED THIS OCTOBER 14 FROM BRITISH LANGUAGE TEACHER AT PEKING UNIVERSITY. EMBASSY SOURCES CIRCUMSPECT ABOUT FRAGMENTARY NATURE OF INFORMATION AND SAID THEY HOPED TO PROBE THEIR UNIVERSITY CONTACTS FURTHER AT SUITABLE TIME LATER IN WEEK. IN MEANTIME, THEY COMMENTED THAT SUSPENSION OF CLASSES WOULD REPRESENT MARKED DEEPENING OF CAMPAIGN WHICH UP TO NOW HAS CONSISTED PRIMARILY OF WALL POSTER DEBATES ON APPLICABILITY OF CONFUCIUS NEGATIVE HISTORICAL EXAMPLE TO CONTEMPORARY EDU-CATIONAL POLICIES. PEKING UNIVERSITY INFORMANTS SAY THAT THESE EARLIER POSTERS HAVE CRITICIZED PEKING UNIVERSITY STAFF
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MEMBERS BY NAME, THAT STAFF MEMBERS DEEPLY CURIOUS ABOUT

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IDENTITY OF CAMPAGIN'S REAL TARGET WITHIN NATIONAL LEADERSHIP,
BUT THAT STUDENT BODY NOT INTERESTED IN LATTER POINT.

2. USLO HAS NO FURTHER INFORMATION ON CAMPAIGN IN OTHER
UNIVERSITIES IN PEKING EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT THE SEPTEMBER 16
KUANG MING JIH PAO ARTICLE ON CHING HUA UNIVERSITY STUDY
OF TENTH PARTY CONGRESS DOCUMENTS NOTED INTER ALIA THAT
"UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE UNIVERSITY PARTY COMMITTEE,
EACH DEPARTMENT'S PARTY BRANCH AND COMMITTEE HAVE RESPECTIVELY
ORGANIZED GROUPS TO CRITICIZE CONFUCIUS. YOUNG INSTRUCTORS AND
WORKER-PEASANT-SOLDIER STUDENTS HAVE ALSO ACTIVELY
ENTERED THE STRUGGLE."

3. BRITISH EMBASSY VISITORS TO UNIVERSITIES IN SHANGHAI
AND CANTON LAST WEEK REPORT CONFUCIUS CAMPAIGN GOING ON BUT
AUTHORITIES CLOSEMOUTHED ABOUT ITS SIGNIFICANCE.
GENERAL EXPLANATION GIVEN HAS BEEN THAT CAMPAIGN DIRECTED AGAINST
LINE OF LIU SHAO-CH'I AND LIN PIAO WITH NO EFFECT ON
UNIVERSITY OPERATIONS.
BRUCE

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